

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
CENTRAL DIVISION

MARY HOLMES, DENISE DAVIS,
ANDREW DALLAS, and EMPOWER
MISSOURI,

Plaintiffs,

-against-

ROBERT KNODELL, in his official capacity
as Acting Director of the Missouri Department
of Social Services,

Defendant.

Case No. 2:22-cv-04026-MDH

JOINT STATUS REPORT

and

**JOINT REQUEST TO EXTEND
STAY**

On August 29, 2024, the parties jointly asked this Court to issue a three-month stay of this action and to refer the parties to mediation. ECF 185. On that day, the Court granted the motion, entered the stay, referred the parties to Magistrate Judge Epps for mediation, and ordered the parties to file a joint report within three months regarding the status of mediation. ECF 186. The parties accordingly provide the following:

1. The parties attended an in-person mediation with Judge Epps on September 12, 2024.
2. The parties attended virtual mediation sessions with Judge Epps on October 3, and November 7.
3. The parties also met independently on October 30, November 12, November 15, November 18, and November 25.
4. As a result of these conversations, the parties believe they have made significant progress toward a mutually agreeable resolution on relief in this action.
5. The parties plan to meet again during the week of December 2.
6. The parties will also attend a virtual mediation with Judge Epps on December 17.

7. The parties believe with additional time they will likely be able to develop a proposed order for relief that would fully resolve the pending claims in this litigation.

In light of the foregoing and the upcoming winter holiday season, the parties respectfully request the Court to extend the present stay until Friday, January 24, 2025.

Respectfully submitted,

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